the sale of subsidised kerosene to fishermen who have got an LPG connection under the scheme.

Helicopters purchased by Oil Companies

609. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several oil companies have purchased helicopters during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their cost, date of purchase and the companies from which these have been purchased;

(c) whether some of the above helicopters have gone out of order;

(d) if so, the number there-of and the amount spent on their maintenance and repairs during the above period; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure that these helicopters are not misused.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Complaint regarding delay in delivery of Money Order

610. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 7070 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th May, 1995 and state:

(a) when disciplinary action was initiated against the alleged guilty personnel by the department;

(b) whether the disciplinary proceedings have been completed, if so, whether the charge has since been proved, if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the postal employees in Delhi do lend money received through money orders to outside people thereby delaying its despatch; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken against this widely prevalent racket in Delhi and how many employees were punished for indulging in this misdeed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Disciplinary proceedings against the guilty official were initiated on 14-12-95.

(b) The defence of the charged official has been received and is under process.

(c) No such instance has come to notice.

(d) Does not arise.

Demands by people of Manipur

611. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the long pending demands of the people of Manipur, namely, withdrawal of Armed Forces Special Power Act, 1958; withdrawal of operation Sunny vale and shifting of Assam Rifles from sacred Kangla, a historical fort in Manipur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The law and order situation in Manipur continues to remain under Control but disturbed on account of secessionist and violent activities of various insurgent groups. To deal with the prevailing situation, the whole of Manipur has been declared as a disturbed area under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958.

An operation called operation "SUNNY VALE' was launched in 1995 to flush out valley-based insurgent groups. This operation resulted in 12 insurgents being killed and 324 insurgents being apprehended. Besides, 121 weapons with assorted ammunition of 1813 rounds were recovered.

Regarding the Kangla Fort, the Government's endeavour will be that a portion of the Assam Rifles Battalion moves out before March 31, 1996. The remaining portion of the Unit would be shifted as soon as alternative accommodation becomes ready for occupation.